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<b>EXPRESS ABANDONMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.138</b>  Send completed form to: Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	<b>Application Number</b>	09/981,754-Conf. #6107
	<b>Filing Date</b>	October 19, 2001
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Reinhold Schmieding
	<b>Art Unit</b>	3713
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	K. M. Christman
	<b>Attorney Docket No.</b>	A8130.0012/P012

Please **check only one** of boxes 1 or 2 below:

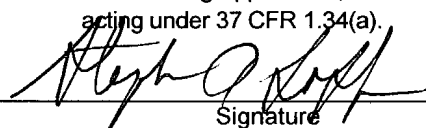
(If no box is checked, this paper will be treated as a request for express abandonment as of the filing date of this paper.)

1. ☒ **Express Abandonment**  
I request that the above-identified application be expressly abandoned as of the filing date of this paper.
2. ☐ **Express Abandonment in Favor of a Continuing Application**  
I request that the above-identified application be expressly abandoned as of the filing date accorded the continuing application filed previously or herewith.

**NOTE:** A paper requesting express abandonment of an application is not effective unless and until an appropriate USPTO official recognizes and acts on the paper. See the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), section 711.01.

**TO AVOID PUBLICATION, PLEASE USE FORM PTO/SB/24A INSTEAD OF THIS FORM.**

I am the: ☐ applicant.  
☐ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.  
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)  
☐ attorney or agent of record. Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_  
☒ attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a) (may act under 37 CFR 1.34(a) only if box 2 above, stating that the application is expressly abandoned in favor of a continuing application, is checked.) Attorney or agent registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a). 31,063  
(Attorney or agent registration number)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen A. Soffen  
Typed or printed name

\_\_\_\_\_  
April 21, 2004  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
(202) 828-4879  
Telephone Number

Note: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☐ Total of 1 forms are submitted.

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